

Message Text

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13

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 MCT-01 DHA-02 AID-05 CCO-00 FBOE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 SP-02 OC-06 OPR-02

PA-02 USSS-00 PRS-01 SCA-01 A-01 SCSE-00 OMB-01 SS-15

SY-05 IO-13 EB-07 SIL-01 LAB-04 CU-04 /103 W

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O R 170810Z SEP 76

FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5446

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 1044

E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS: PINS, SF

SUB: RENEWED RIOTING IN CAPE TOWN

REF: CAPE TOWN 1043

SUMMARY: SERIOUS RIOTING BROKE OUT YESTERDAY EVENING
(SEPT 16) IN SEVERAL "COLORED" AREAS AROUND CAPE TOWN.

UNCONFIRMED NEWS REPORTS SAY THAT AT LEAST 12 KILLED AND MORE
THAT 50 HOSPITALIZED BY GUNSHOT WOUNDS. IN PORT ELIZABETH,
STONING OF VEHICLES AND DEMONSTRATIONS LED BY BLACK"
SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS RESULTED IN 150 ARRESTS ACCORDING
NEWS REPORTS. DEPUTY LEADER OF COLORED COMMUNITY WHOSE
LEADERS NOW HAD TO ACT ANONYMOUSLY. END SUMMARY

1. RIOTING RESUMED IN "COLORED" DISTRICTS X ATHLONE,
MANENBERG, GRASSY PARK, BISHOP LAVIS AND KEWTON YESTERDAY
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EVENING (SEPT 16) APPARENTLY AGGRAVATED BY HALF HOUR POWER

FAILURE BEGINNING AT 8.15 PM WHICH BLACKED 91 NUMBER OF WHITE AS WELL AS COLORED AREAS. AUTHORITIES SAID BLACKOUT CAUSED BY LIGHTENING STRIKING POWER TRANSMISSION LINE IN KAROO NOT RPT NOT BY SABOTAGE. RIOTERS APPARENTLY TOOK ADVANTAGE OF BLACKOUT TO LOOT SHOPS AND BOTTLE STORES. FIERY ROAD BLOCKS OF BURNING TIRES WERE ERECTED IN MANY AREAS. DURING BLACKOUT TRAFFIC WAS TEMPORARILY SLOWED IN EASTERN BOULEVARD, MAIN ROAD TO SOUTHERN SUBURBS, BY BURNING TIRES AND SEVERAL CARS WERE STONED.

2. C PORT ELIZABETH IN EASTERN CAPE BLACK SCHOOL CHILDREN LED DEMONSTRATIONS WHICH RESULTED IN OUTBREAK OF STONING. POLICE REPORTEDLY ARRESTED 150. IN NUMBER OF TOWNS AROUND CAPE TOWN, INCLUDING WORCESTER, MONTAGU, TULBAGH AND ROBERTSON, LIQUOR OUTLETS HAVE BEEN CLOSED FOR A WEEK, SOME VOLUNTARILY, SOME BY ORDER OF LOCAL MAGISTRATE. VIGILANTE GROUPS BEING FORMED IN INCREASING NUMBER OF WHITE SUBURBS AND TOWNS AROUND CAPE TOWN.

3. ABSENTEEISM IN SECOND DAY OF BOYCOTT YESTERDAY(SEPT. 16) VARIED CONSIDERABLY. HARDEST HIT WAS CLOTHING INDUSTRY, WHERE MANY FACTORIES HAD TO STOP PRODUCTION, BAKERIES AND SMALL SHOPS AND STORES. TENSION IN "COLORED" AREAS APPARENTLY GRAVATED BY CLOSURE OF ALMOST ALL STORES MAKING IT DIFFICULT FOR RESIDENTS TO BUY FOOD. MORE NON-WHITE WORKERS APPARENTLY COMING TO WORK TODAY (SEPT 17) AND BOYCOTT APPEARS TO BE ENDING.

3. IN COMMENTING ON OBSERVANCE OF 2-DAY WORK BOYCOTT BY WORKERS DESPITE FACT THEY DID NOT KNOW WHO CALLED IT, DEPUTY LEADER OF "COLORED" LABOR PARTY, DAVID CURRY, WAS QUOTED BY NEWS REPORTS AS SAYING THIS INDICATED "SHREWDNESS" OF COLORED COMMUNITY, WHOSE LEADERS NOW HAD TO ACT ANONYMOUSLY. CURRY SAID PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF DEMOCRATIC MEANS OF PROTEST AND PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT AND SOCIAL STRUCTURE BREAKING DOWN. HE REPORTEDLY SAID "WHITE SOUTH AFRICA IS LOSING CONTROL OF SITUATION" AND CALLED ON GOVERNMENT TO REMEDY SITUATION.

WHITE
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